GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1523
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2002
EXPANSION OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES
PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges alongwith their respective capacity functioning at present in West Bengal, district-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to set up new telephone exchanges and expand the capacity of existing exchanges in this State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the government propose to introduce cellular phone service in all District Headquarters of West Bengal; and

(e) if so, the time by which it will be started?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) Details are given at Annexure.

(b) & (c): It is proposed to commission around 176 telephone exchanges including main and expansion, with capacity addition of approximately 3.10 lakh lines during the current financial year in West Bengal.

(d) & (e): Cellular phone service is already working for the entire area under the jurisdiction of Kolkata Telephone District. In remaining districts of West Bengal, services are expected to be available in the last quarter of the current financial year.

ANNEXURE

DISTRICT-WISE NUMBER OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE CAPACITY FUNCTIONING IN WEST BENGAL AS ON 30.6.2002.

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Exchanges	Total capacity
1	Burdwan	173	224722
2	Murshidabad	90	84700
3	Bakura	65	51220
4	Howrah	59	169494
5	Hoogly	117	204598
6	24 Pargannas (N)	107	247852
7	24 Pargannas (S)	96	149149
8	Coochbehar	33	38304
9	Jalpaiguri	51	55588
10	Midnapur	164	146044
11	Nadia	77	101142
12	Malda	54	57476
13	Purulia	29	24104
14	Dinajpur (N)	45	47776
15	Dinajpur (S)	30	35976
16	Darjeeling	79	108456
17	Birbhum	84	60220
18	Calcutta	188	957922